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8CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

SUBJECT Notes on Dismantlings and Shut-
downs in the Russian Zone
25X1A

INFO. August 1947

DIST. ¹⁰
X October 1947PAGES 2
SUPPLEMENTORIGIN
25X1XTechnological Bureau in Leipzig and Brown BoveriThis document is hereby regraded to
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letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

A resident of Leipzig reports that twenty-six technological bureaus operating under SMA are in reality commissions of experts for planning and executing dismantling operations of all types. The Leipzig bureau is headed by Hans Benkert, former Siemens director. In August 1947 it was preparing to dismantle a number of installations in the Leipzig area belonging to Brown, Boveri and Co., although the holdings of that firm were transferred in March 1947 from the Control Administration of SMA to the Soviet AG for Machinery.

Source Comment: Benkert was given a five-year contract in April 1947 to work as an expert in Russia. When an investigation revealed that he was wanted as a war criminal and had been a Nazi since 1932, SMA nullified the contract and the Charlottenburg Labor Office announced that Benkert had been assigned to a Berlin electric firm as an ordinary mechanic. The reported moves were only pretexts to camouflage his real activity for SMA in Leipzig.

Lignite Mines in Senftenberg

A resident of Senftenberg reports that the Erika, Renate-Eva, Anna-Mathilde, and Viktoria 3 mines in the Senftenberg lignite area, which were partially dismantled at the beginning of 1947, retained part of their operational power when they were taken over by the Soviet Lignite Combine. The Renate-Eva mine kept two of its original eight turbines and the Anna-Mathilde one of its original five. With these three turbines, the two produced 30,000 kilowatts of electrical current for inclusion in the 90,000 kilowatts furnished to Berlin from the Russian Zone according to the ACC agreement. At the beginning of August 1947, dismantling was resumed and the three turbines removed, occasioning a loss of the 30,000 kilowatts to Berlin. In the Erika and Viktoria 3 mines, over-aged briquette installations are being dismantled.

Document No. 228

NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
CLASSIFICATIONAuth: DDA Memo. 4 Apr 77
DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 18 Apr 78 By: 0/8

OCT 13 1947

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3. Potassium Works

The Kaiseroda I and II potassium plants, near Bad Salzungen, Thuringia, belonging to the Soviet AG, were closed on 3 July 1947. The two plants had a daily output of 12,000-14,000 tons (normal peace-time output 16,000 tons). Since the beginning of 1947, the total production had been exported to Denmark and Sweden by way of Wismar and Stralsund. These two mining installations and the nearby potassium works Merkur I and Merkur II, also belonging to the Soviet AG, were scheduled for dismantling in fall of 1947. The potassium works near Bad Berka, also under the Soviet AG, were already being dismantled at the beginning of September.

4. Railroad Car Repairs

An employee of the Berlin Reichsbahn direction reports that in August 1947, the Lindner A.G., Ammendorf (D92), notified the Reichsbahndirektion that SMI had forbidden the repair of 300 cars and 72 engines sent from the Berlin city railroad. The car factory in Wismar, which did repairs for the Berlin S-Bahn, is also closed. These two measures threaten a serious curtailment of Berlin traffic.

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